

Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act Report to Congress: Overcoming Child Hunger Problems on Indian Reservations

Section 141 of the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act (HHFKA) requires USDA to report to Congress by December 13, 2011 on the manner in which Federal nutrition programs can help overcome child hunger and nutrition problems on Indian reservations and offer administrative and legislative recommendations to strengthen and streamline USDA agriculture programs which reduce childhood hunger, obesity, and type 2 diabetes on Indian reservations. The report to Congress will include the following:

- 1. Brief summary of the status of hunger, obesity, and type 2 diabetes in Indian Country.** The summary shall include comparable statistics for the general population for context and comparison. These data shall be used to help frame the scope of the problems in Indian Country.
- 2. Discussion of the scope and reach of Federal nutrition assistance programs in Indian Country.** The report shall describe the structure of the national nutrition safety net and, to the extent possible with existing data, the scale of these programs in Indian Country (in terms of funding, number of people served and benefits). The report shall also discuss how nutrition assistance programs work to address child hunger, obesity, and (to the extent possible) type 2 diabetes. This discussion can be informed by specific data and research related to Indian country as well as data and research related to the general population.
- 3. Discussion of current Federal initiatives and positive impacts of implementation of the HHFKA.** The report shall describe current USDA efforts to end hunger, improve nutrition, and reduce obesity, with a particular focus on how the legislation enacted in HHFKA will address hunger, obesity, and type 2 diabetes in Indian Country.